



# SAVE THE DATE

CHANGING THE WORLD

MAKING NON VIOLENT CHILDHOODS A REALITY

15 AND 16 NOVEMBER – STOCKHOLM

You are invited to express your interest to participate in a high-level conference on 15 and 16 November 2018 on the implementation of the legal prohibition of all corporal punishment of children. The conference marks the end of an important year in the journey to end corporal punishment following the Agenda 2030 for Children: End Violence Solutions Summit in February and the Malta high-level Global Conference on the Universal Prohibition of Corporal Punishment in June.

The Stockholm Conference will launch a set of guidance reports with global relevance on the implementation of the legal ban on corporal punishment in the best interests of the child, including through positive, non-violent parenting, good communication practices and awareness raising campaigns, and for service providers to act as champions for non-violent childhoods.

On the occasion of the Stockholm Conference, a campaign produced by the Non-Violent Childhoods project will be launched. Sweden – being the conference venue – was the pioneer in this area, becoming the first country in the world to ban corporal punishment in 1979. Almost 40 years later, progress has accelerated and now 53 countries worldwide have prohibited corporal punishment in all settings.

**MANY MORE ARE PREPARING TO DO THE SAME.**

Register your interest to take part in the Stockholm Conference in November 2018 on the following website:

[bit.ly/non-violent-childhoods](http://bit.ly/non-violent-childhoods)



This project is co-funded by the European Union under the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020.



## NON VIOLENT CHILDHOODS – MOVING ON FROM CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

The Non-Violent Childhoods project is coordinated by the Council of the Baltic Sea States with co-funding from the European Commission. Several ministries and national institutions are actively engaged in the project, such as the Ministry of Social Affairs, Estonia; the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland; the Ministry of Welfare, Latvia; the Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Poland; and the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Sweden. The project involves representatives and experts from European countries, including children, the academia, Parliamentarians, national and international NGOs, professionals from different sectors and Ombudsmen offices for children. The Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children is also a main partner adding a global perspective.

The Baltic Sea Region is today almost a no-corporal-punishment zone for children as 10 out of 11 countries in the region have prohibited corporal punishment in all settings. Since Sweden enacted its legal prohibition in 1979, Finland introduced prohibition in 1983, Norway in 1987, Denmark in 1997, Latvia in 1998, Germany in 2000, Iceland in 2003, Poland in 2010, Estonia in 2015 and Lithuania in 2017. The Russian Federation has thus far not introduced an explicit legal ban.

These countries experienced high levels of social acceptance of corporal punishment before the adoption of the legal ban and awareness raising activities. Far less parents are today using physical or humiliating and degrading violence to punish their children. The development in the Baltic Sea Region shows that it is possible to change attitudes and behaviours.

However, too many children still experience corporal punishment. Affected children feel they have few adults to turn to, they ask for adults and service providers to keep personal information confidential and accessible helplines and support structures. Thus, there continues to be a need to promote the full and effective implementation of the legal prohibition of corporal punishment of children.

The Stockholm Conference will share and discuss the lessons learned from the Baltic Sea Region and other European countries on how to make change happen and how to promote effective implementation of legal bans on corporal punishment.

[www.childrenatrisk.eu/nonviolence](http://www.childrenatrisk.eu/nonviolence)



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